

COMBINED DECLARATION
AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Attorney Docket No. 25527-0003

As a below named joint inventor, each of us hereby declares as follows:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am an original, first, and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Magnetic Field Enhanced Hybridization of Target Molecules to Immobilized Probes

the specification of which is identified with Attorney Docket No. 25527-0003, assigned Application No. 09/584,661.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information of which I am aware that is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(a).

I do not know and do not believe: that this invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before our invention thereof; that this invention was patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application; that this invention was in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application; that this invention has been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application; nor that any application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by me or my legal representatives or assigns.

I hereby appoint the following to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.

FIRST JOINT INVENTOR

INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE

DATE

Jaime E. Ramirez-Vick



11-27-00

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